

IBARMS Minutes
November 17, 2007
Denver Sheraton West

Roger Dowd called the session to order and outlined the flow of the day with speakers Loung Ung and Kari Grady Grossman, world cafes, and level breakouts in the afternoon.

Loung Ung spoke eloquently about her life as a Cambodian refugee who became an author and human rights activist after growing up in the United States. She wrote *They Killed My Father* as part of her healing process. She spoke to the fact that we all have a voice and power IF we choose to take it. She gave insight into what was happening in Cambodia in 1970's and how her country has evolved since that time. She spoke of coming as a boat person to America, growing up in a rural town, attending college and returning to Cambodia learn about her family and help her country. She works with several organizations on landmine removal and healing those injured by landmines. She reflected that peace is not automatic. It needs time, planning, nurturing and support. Peace is a choice. Peace is an action. People need help not just to survive war but the peace as well. The presentation was a powerful experience for those in attendance. She then answered questions from the audience.

After a short break, we heard from Kari Grady Grossman who lives in Wyoming and is an adoptive mother of a Cambodian son, former journalist for Discovery Channel online, activist, and now author. She wrote *Bones That Float* for her son as a result of her research while visiting his home country. She and her husband founded the Grady Grossman School in Cambodia. She shared what they learned through this experience about the country of Cambodia and the importance of educating a nation to survive peace. Their website is www.gradygrossmanschool.com She spoke to the need for life skills and vocational skills issue training for the children. She is working to begin a sister school project to help students learn more and have additional exposure to languages. Tutoring and the need to hear native English speakers is a goal of the program for students.

We then went in to the World Café exercise.

Guided questions were:

How do we begin to take action in an effort to create a more peaceful world?

What does this look like, sound like, feel like?

We then had a working lunch. Teachers and students who attended the morning session departed at this time.

GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING

Roger began the working lunch with a reading of the September minutes. A motion was made by Dorsee and seconded by Lisa. Minutes were approved.

There is a proposal to change the by-laws related to terms of office. Roger related that the goal is to encourage more participation among the membership. The first reading was made with voting to take place at the February meeting.

Proposals regarding Articles 4 and 5:

- Change Article 4, Section 3.1 to read "The term of the office shall be one year from July 1 through June 30".
- Add Article 5 stating "If a person on the Executive Committee misses two consecutive meetings, the position is forfeited and will be billed by appointment".

Our next meeting is February 15 and will be a one day meeting. At that time, there will be a call for candidates. Roger mentioned that we would like to look at the possibility of hiring an executive director of IBARMS in the future.

This meeting place is changed to the Copper Fields Event Center at I-70 and Wadsworth. Watch for further information on times, directions, and hotel options via the newsletter, Evite, and website.

Jan Lotter gave the treasurer's report. Once all bills are paid, we have just a little over \$50,000. This will take us through conference preparation, division projects, and committee commitments for the year.

Jan also reported that the Project Committee has four proposals that were submitted by the deadline to review. There is a total of \$5,000 to be awarded by the group. A full report of awards will be given in February.

Lisa reported that the Scholarship Committee has information and forms posted on the website. You are encouraged to share the information with graduating seniors.

Lou reported on the formation of the Legislative Committee. He, Roger and Dan did meeting the Angie Paconi who gave them some direction. They have some individual meetings set with congressman/congresswomen to encourage legislation that would give \$25,000 to each IB school for professional development, promotion of program access and sustainability. The suggestion from Angie was to focus on the PYP and MYP programs in our state. Talking points will be sent to members and you are highly encouraged to educate yourself in preparation for questions. This legislation is based on what was accomplished in California. Wyoming and New Mexico members will be kept apprised as well.

Lori gave an update on the June Conference numbers and sessions to be offered. Sessions are filling fast and will be open outside the region December 31. Register soon!

Roger reminded us of the Action Packs on the ibo.org site. They are a great resource when questions come our way or we are making presentations.

The MYP Student Summit is scheduled for January 11 with focus on Health and Social Education this year. The organizers are working with a speaker from Denver University.

A report was presented on the ToK Ethics in Education Conference held October 13th at Denver University. All went well with topics of sports, film, business, anthropology, and psychology included in the discussions. Steve did a great job organizing this event. DU professors were please with the results and a summary will go to Cardiff.

PYP was to discuss a summit in their breakout session.

Lori would appreciate any information for the newsletter scheduled to go out in December. Quotes from students are always helpful.

Watch for blog discussions on the website which include roundtable information, jobs, and issues that arise.

We broke into level sessions.

Respectfully submitted by Glenda Nachtrieb, Secretary

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